- 31. (Amended) The process according to claim 28, characterized in that the regeneration of the sensory cells of the inner ear takes place by stimulating proliferation of the supporting cells of the inner ear.
- 32. (Amended) The process according to claim 28, characterized in that the sensory cells of the inner ear are hair cells.
- 33. (Amended) The process according to claim 28, characterized in that cell cycle inhibitor is a cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor.
- 34. (Amended) The process according to claim 33, characterized in that the cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor is the cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor p27^{Kip1}.
- 35. (Amended) The process according to claim 28, characterized in that the disease or disorder of the inner ear is hearing loss.
- 36. (Amended) The process according to claim 28, characterized in that the active ingredient is at least one peptide or at least one protein.
- 37. (Amended) The process according to claim 28, characterized in that the active ingredient is at least one nucleic acid molecule.
- 38. (Amended) The process according to claim 37, characterized in that the nucleic acid molecule codes for a peptide or a protein.
- 39. (Amended) The process according to claim 37, characterized in that the nucleic acid molecule is a DNA molecule.
- 40. (Amended) The process according to claim 39, characterized in that the nucleic acid molecule is a cDNA molecule.
- 41. (Amended) The process according to claim 47, characterized in that the nucleic acid molecule is an RNA molecule.



LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS^{nax} 1420 Fifth Avenue Suite 2800 Seattle, Washington 98101 206.682.8100

- 42. (Amended) The process according to claim 28, characterized in that the active ingredient is in the form of a vector.
- 43. (Amended) The process according to claim 42, characterized in that the vector is a viral vector.
- 44. (Amended) The process according to claim 43, characterized in that the virus is a retrovirus, an adenovirus or an adeno-associated virus.
- 45. (Amended) The process according to claim 42, characterized in that the viral vector is a non-viral vector.
- 46. (Amended) The process according to claim 37, characterized in that the active ingredient is a nucleic acid molecule packed in a liposome or lipoplex.
- 47. (Amended) The process according to claim 28, characterized in that the active ingredient is used in a therapeutically active quantity.
- 48. (Amended) The process according to claim 28, characterized in that the active ingredient is intended for local application.
- 55. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition or medicament, characterized in that it contains a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a therapeutically effective amount of at least one active ingredient able to inhibit or eliminate the action of a cell cycle inhibitor present in the inner ear.
- 56. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition or medicament of claim 55, characterized in that the active ingredient is a cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor.
- 57. (Amended) The process according to claim 37 wherein said nucleic acid molecule is a recombinant nucleic acid molecule.
- 58. (Amended) The process according to claim 42 wherein said vector carries a nucleic acid molecule.





By

62. (New) The process according to claim 39, characterized in that the DNA molecule is an antisense DNA molecule.